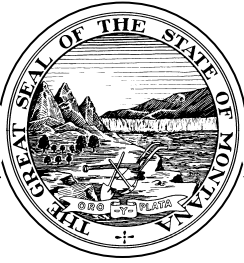


DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
DIVISION OF BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS



BRIAN SCHWEITZER  
GOVERNOR

ANNIE M. GOODWIN  
COMMISSIONER

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## STATE OF MONTANA

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 7, 2008**

### **Montana Banks: Safe and Sound**

HELENA, MONTANA – Montana Commissioner of Banking and Financial Institutions today assured Montanans that its 64 state-chartered banks are safe and well capitalized. In fact, according to Commissioner Annie M. Goodwin "Montana banks are doing well despite the challenges that many financial institutions are facing in this current difficult economic climate."

"Our banks are regularly monitored, examined and deposits in these banks are covered by FDIC insurance," said Commissioner Goodwin. "This information is critical to communicate to Montanans in light of the recent events in which the financial markets have received broad media coverage throughout our country and also our local communities. Montana banks will continue to be the bedrock of our communities."

Last week Congress passed the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, which temporarily raises the basic limit on federal deposit insurance coverage from \$100,000 to \$250,000 per depositor. The temporary increase in deposit insurance became effective immediately upon the President's signature. The legislation provides that the basic deposit insurance will return to \$100,000 on December 31, 2009.

Montanans can go to [www.myFDICinsurance.gov](http://www.myFDICinsurance.gov) and use EDIE the Estimator to learn more about FDIC insurance. Deposit insurance information is also available on the FDIC's website at [www.fdic.gov/deposit/deposits](http://www.fdic.gov/deposit/deposits).

*The Division of Banking and Financial Institutions is the regulator for all Montana state-chartered banks, state-chartered credit unions, and non-depository financial institutions, which include consumer loan and sales finance companies, residential mortgage lenders, mortgage brokers and loan originators, title lenders, deferred deposit lenders and escrow businesses. It is the mission of the Division of Banking and Financial Institutions to protect the public interest by regulating the business of state chartered and licensed financial institutions under its supervision. The Division is committed to preserve and promote: sound and constructive competition among financial institutions; a dual federal and state banking system; and the security of deposits. The Division seeks regulatory coordination and cooperation as well as regulatory parity among financial services institutions while encouraging diversity in financial products and services.*

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